

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 653-8007
(916) 653-0989 FAX
Website: www.bof.fire.ca.gov



MINUTES
BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
FULL BOARD OF FORESTRY MEETING

Sacramento, CA

August 8, 2007

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Stan Dixon, Chair
David Nawi
Jim Ostrowski
Doug Piirto
Tom Walz
Lloyd Bradshaw
Gary Nakamura

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Pam Giacomini
Bruce Saito

BOARD STAFF:

George Gentry, Executive Officer
Eric Huff, Executive Officer, Forester's Licensing
Teri Ashby, Board Counsel
Chris Zimny, Regulations Coordinator
Carol Horn, Executive Assistant

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:

Crawford Tuttle, Chief Deputy Director
Russ Henly, Asst. Deputy Director, Res. Mgmt.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dixon called the August 8, 2007 meeting of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to order.

2. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held.

3. **RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION**

n/a

4. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTIONS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

n/a

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JUNE AND JULY, 2007**

Chairman Dixon asked the Board what their pleasure was regarding the approval of the June and July 2007 Board of Forestry Meeting minutes.

08-07-05: Member Waltz moved to approve the June and July Board Meeting minutes. Member Piirto seconded the motion.

Several Board members said they did not receive the July minutes.

Member Walz amended the motion to approve only the June Board Meeting minutes. Member Piirto seconded the motion. All members were in favor of the motion, and it passed unanimously.

6. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairman Dixon asked to defer election of Vice Chair to next month's meeting. Chairman Dixon felt it would be appropriate to have all Board members present to have the opportunity to vote for Vice Chair.

7. **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR/DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Crawford Tuttle, Chief Deputy Director, said CAL FIRE had been working closely with the USFS and local government on the Angora Fire Recovery Plan. For several months, CAL FIRE will work closely with El Dorado County on debris removal and hazard tree removal in burn areas. CAL FIRE and other agencies have been concerned about protecting the clarity of Lake Tahoe, and there is a need for a 17-member panel, with both voting and non-voting members to complete a comprehensive review of procedures and recommend improvements.

Mr. Tuttle said even though we still have yet to get a budget signed, CAL FIRE will still respond as normal and the Governor will make sure CAL FIRE has the ability to perform their duties. The DC-10 tanker is available for dispatch. Governor Schwarzenegger sent a letter to U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns regarding the recent denial of appeals that the California Resources Agency submitted to the U. S. Forest Service in July 2006. The Resources Agency appealed to the Forest Service, contending that the Forest Management Plans for the Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres, and San Bernardino National Forests do not reflect commitments made to preserve the roadless characteristics of Inventoried Roadless Areas. The Resources Agency held that the plans failed to consider appropriate mapping

standards under the National Environmental Protection Act and National Forests Management Act for all official and unofficial routes in the IRAs. The appeals were filed to protect roadless areas in four Southern California forests asking the Forest Service to honor their commitment to ensure that California's forests remain protected from day-to-day Forest Service decisions or the uncertainty of a national roadless rule.

Executive Officer Gentry will meet with Secretary Chrisman to see how the Board could be utilized in providing input for the Tahoe Commission.

8. REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

Mr. Jim Pena, Deputy Regional Forester, Region 5, said the Angora Fire started southwest of South Lake Tahoe on the afternoon of June 24th from an unattended campfire. It burned under some of the most severe fire danger conditions experienced in that area during the last 20 years. The fire spread four miles in three hours and burned more than 250 structures on private property. Most of the 3,072 acres within the fire perimeter involved National Forest System lands, however about 300 urban lots administered by the USFS, California Tahoe Conservancy, and El Dorado County, and 231 acres of private property burned. Mr. Pena said the 2007 Angora Fire had three phases of rehabilitation. (1) Fire Suppression Rehabilitation: during mop-up of fire. (2) Burned Area Emergency Response: within one year. (3) Long-Term Recovery: within three years or more. Mr. Pena distributed their report, entitled "An Assessment of Fuel Treatment Effects on Fire Behavior, Suppression Effectiveness, and Structure Ignition on the Angora Fire".

Mr. Pena gave an update on Sudden Oak Death Program. He said Sudden Oak Death was first observed in mid-90s. The USFS is a member of the California Oak Mortality Task Force, and they have funded 37 projects. Funding began in 2001, and last year they were funded 1.2 million dollars. In 2007, their budget was cut in half from 2006. The USFS funded ten projects in 2007.

Mr. Pena said last weekend they were dealing with the threat of fire to Santa Barbara, and they had been successful in keeping the fire in the wilderness. The USFS used an extremely aggressive initial attack. Throughout the State, the fuel moisture levels reached record levels in July. Mr. Pena said they can usually contain the majority of large fires, only about 2% get away. The USFS requested severity funding to augment initial attack from the Washington Office.

Member Ostrowski asked how much greenhouse gas emissions were emitted during large fires.

Mr. Pena said the USFS had some stations looking at greenhouse gas emissions. Studies were being made in California and the Rocky Mountain Region. Mr. Pena extended an invitation to the Board to visit those sites during a field trip.

Member Walz asked if there was something the Board could do to change conditions for fire salvage. Member Walz said there needed to be fuels treatment in the forest and not just around structures. Member Walz asked Chairman Dixon if the Board could write a letter to Washington. Chairman Dixon said he would refer this to the Resource Protection Committee for a recommendation back to the Board. Member Piirto said he, too, would like to see the

Board act on this. The Resource Protection Committee will consult with the Policy Committee and draft a letter for the Board.

9. REPORT OF THE BOARD'S ADVISORY COMMITTEES

California Oak Mortality Task Force (COMTF)

No report was given, however the California Oak Mortality Task Force Report to the Board of Forestry was contained in the Board binder.

Range Management Advisory Committee

No report was given.

Monitoring Study Group

Mr. Pete Cafferata gave an update of the last MSG meeting in Redding. A copy of the MSG update was contained in board binder. The MSG last met on July 24th in Redding. The next MSG meeting was tentatively set for September 5 and 6 in the Fresno/Clovis area, which will be an office and field meeting to discuss and observe the Kings River Experimental Watershed (KREW) study being conducted by the USFS-PSW

Professional Foresters Examining Committee

Mr. Eric Huff, Executive Officer for Forester's Licensing, said the next meeting of the PFEC will be held on August 30 at which time they will discuss the draft exam. Mr. Huff reported that the following Registered Professional Foresters have requested and meet the requirements for license **WITHDRAWAL**:

Nancy S. Drinkard, RPF 1979

Kenneth E. Quick, Jr., RPF 291

The following Registered Professional Foresters have requested license **REINSTATEMENT** from withdrawal status:

Jacob Markowitsch, RPF 1682

Robin S. Vora, RPF 1952

The following Certified Rangeland Managers have requested **VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT**:

Davis M. Flohr, RPF 763

Peter A. Twight, RPF 2555

08-07-9: Member Nawi moved to accept all the withdrawal, reinstatement and voluntary relinquishments of RPFs. Member Piirto seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Huff noted the passing of Mr. Donald Mackenzie, RPF 1614.

10. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) AND PUBLIC COMMENT FOR JACKSON DEMONSTRATION STATE FOREST (JDSF) DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Russ Henly prepared a summary of comments received on Alternative G and presented the summary to the Board. Mr. Henly said the Department was at a phase in the process for further Board direction. Mr. Henly would like to have a certified DEIR by October.

Member Nawi said that the Board/Department had taken a major step toward adoption of a Management Plan, but they had much work ahead of them to have it ready by October. Member Nawi said the Board was still receiving a wide variety of comments. Member Nawi said the Department should go ahead and prepare analytical responses. The Department should bring all issues requiring Board comment to the Board for response. Member Nawi was not sure if there was still a role for himself and Member Giacomini as the JDSF Subcommittee.

Chairman Dixon said Members Nawi and Giacomini would continue as the JDSF Subcommittee.

Member Nawi agreed it would be useful to have the Subcommittee continue, but as they get to the point of decision, the Board as a whole should clarify the role of the Subcommittee.

Executive Officer Gentry felt it would be helpful to have the JDSF Subcommittee meet at least once more to separate analytical and content issues.

Board members all agreed to keep JDSF Subcommittee. CAL FIRE, as the consultant, will bring to Board next month the decisions the Board needs to make, and based on that direction they could prepare responses. The Board would like to play a role in the implementation of the plan. The Board, not the Subcommittee, will make final decisions in September. The Subcommittee is not empowered to make Board discretion-based decisions.

Member Nawi said he and Member Giacomini would continue as the Subcommittee and work with Executive Officer Gentry and Mr. Henly and review the analytical discussions. They will also identify discretion decisions on the content of the plan to help the Board make decisions. Board members were in agreement with Member Nawi.

The Board thanked Mr. Henly on the extraordinary job he did in summarizing the comments.

11. PRESENTATION ON A CARBON SEQUESTRATION STUDY IN CALAVERAS COUNTY

Dr. Bruce Krumland, an RPF working with Sierra Pacific Industries gave a powerpoint presentation, entitled, "Carbon Budgets and CAR Protocols, Case Studies with SPI Watersheds". A copy of Dr. Krumland's presentation was contained in the Board Binder.

Member Walz asked Dr. Krumland if there were a maximum vegetation capacity that when you get too much vegetation on a given acre of ground, you then run the risk of having less sequestration occurring, or can every acre carry an infinite amount of vegetation.

Dr. Krumland said there were physical limits as to what you can grow. A full growth redwood stand is probably the most you could get. Dr. Krumland said that carbon would be stored there but it would not actively take CO₂ out of the air. Member Walz said the Board of Forestry, through the Forest Practice Rules had established minimum stocking standards to consider forest lands, was it possible to identify a maximum growing capacity on land to say that once you exceed that maximum you no longer have a carbon sequestering piece of property but in fact it is a potential carbon. Member Walz asked if it was possible to identify and quantify that. Dr. Krumland said the state Member Walz was talking about was when you get something old and mature, and then it basically turns into daily growth rates. Member Walz asked if any of the registries identify that type. Dr. Krumland said no, they basically do storage, not active simulation of CO₂.

Dr. Krumland will send a much more detailed draft to the Board in a couple of weeks.

Member Piirto understood Dr. Krumland to say that with intensive management, the clearcut scenario per Option A was the best producing in terms of carbon over the long-term, as contrasted to some form of slash management, and that the magnitude of difference between your best treatment, an even-aged forest management Option A, as contrasted to slash.

Member Bradshaw asked Dr. Krumland if he was aware of any scientific publications that would be contrary to his results. Dr. Krumland answered no.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Michelle Passero, Pacific Forest Trust, said she had worked extensively on CA Registry protocol. Ms. Passero appreciated the Board looking into the matter. She felt it was extremely important to CA Climate Forestry Registry make presentations. Ms. Passero said there was a need for input from the forest sector, and that a lot of issues and terminology was getting confused. Ms. Passero said she would provide a list of people who could make presentations to the Board.

Mr. Bill Stewart, UC Berkeley Cooperative Extension, said that carbon accounting protocols were complicated issues, it was not just about forest management and forest acres, it was about off-sets and credits and reporting to CALEPA. Mr. Stewart said the issues were not clear and needed to be clarified. Mr. Stewart said the California protocols were really more about forestry habitat acres, not counting carbon credits.

Member Ostrowski said even though there was a timeline, he would like to bring this back to Committee next month as an ongoing agenda item, specifically to look at the Air Resources Board pending approval or an option of protocol. At that time they would have had the workshop, and could draft a letter for consideration of the Board if they want to weigh in at all on the issue. It appeared to Member Ostrowski that there were a lot of unanswered questions and issues.

Chairman Dixon agreed with Member Ostrowski that there were a lot of unanswered questions and issues, and the Board needed to be well informed before making a decision or recommendation. Chairman Dixon said they would proceed cautiously.

It was Member Walz's intent that the Board come up with a set of qualified forests criteria that the Registered Professional Forester would be asked to consider when they were

approving forest certification. Member Walz said that at either Committee or Board level there needed to be establishment of what qualifies as a forest which meets the criteria of establishing greenhouse gas reduction emissions.

Chairman Dixon said that would be a discussion for the Policy Committee to undertake.

Member Bradshaw suggested having a joint-Board Meeting or invite the Air Resources Board to have an information sharing meeting. Member Bradshaw believed that there would be some action on the Air Resources Board. Member Bradshaw said there were new contact people, and the Board should make contact with the new players and let them know who the Board is, and what the Board was doing, and ask to be included on forestry related issues.

Member Ostrowski said that Executive Officer Gentry and Member Nawi will be making contact with the new members at Air Resources. Member Ostrowski said after the next Board meeting they, and they have made contact with the new people at the Air Resources Board, they could draft a letter and set up a workshop.

Member Nawi said the initial contact would be made by Executive Officer Gentry, possibly with Member Nawi's participation, and based on that, there would be a decision as to whether to make contact at policy level.

The protocols adopted by the Climate Action Registry are on the Air Resources Board's website.

Executive Officer Gentry said the Air Resources Board will hold workshop on August 13 and September 6. If the Executive Officer is unable to attend, Mr. Doug Wickizer would attend. Mr. Wickizer has assisted the Executive Officer in these efforts and will attend both workshops. Mr. Gentry asked Board members to attend the workshop if they were available.

Member Nakamura said there was a role for Board to interact with the Carbon Registry in setting forest policy for the state.

12. PRESENTATIONS ON CARBON ACCOUNTING FORESTRY PROTOCOLS

Dr. Steve Mader, representing CH2M Hill, gave a power point presentation, entitled, "Carbon Accounting Protocols for Forestry: A Review and Comparison". A copy of Dr. Mader's presentation was contained in the Board Binder.

Member Piirto asked what Committee should focus on carbon sequestration.

Member Nawi suggested that Member Ostrowski, Chair of the Policy Committee, give a summary of the discussion they had during the Policy Committee, and give an update on ARB.

Member Ostrowski said the Policy Committee yesterday had a good discussion of the carbon sequestration issues and climate change issues. Mr. Wickizer and Ms. Bleier provided information on what was happening at the Air Resources Board. There have been a number of changes, including a new Chair for the Air Resources Board, and the addition

of former Secretary for Resources Mary Nichols. Some things that had rapidly changed since the last Board meeting was the talk of a workshop being prepared for possibly December of this year to bring both the Air Resources Board and the Board of Forestry together to discuss the role of forestry sector, greenhouse gases, sequestration. That date has changed to early next year, and the focus of the symposium had changed to look at rather than the protocols and the issue of measuring carbon in the forestry sector, but to look at economics, carbon accounting, and forest climate change. Mr. Dale Shimp is the new contact for forestry sector at the Air Resources Board. The Policy Committee asked Executive Officer Gentry to make contact with Mr. Shimp and express the Board's interest in those issues. Mr. Tony Brunello, Deputy Secretary for Climate Change will be the lead person for the Resource Agency. The Policy Committee thought that the protocols were being reviewed and some time after the first of next year, the Board would be looking at ARB, and decide what protocols would be used for reporting forest sequestered carbons. The ARB will hold a workshop on September 6. The workshop will discuss forestry protocols and moving toward possible adoption of protocols in October. The protocols would be used to report forestry emissions; the baseline for the actual measurement of the 1990 baseline of forestry sector emissions is ongoing and needs to be accomplished by the first of 2008. Member Ostrowski said the Committee did not come up with any recommendations for action by the Board, but after listening to today's presentations, he thought it would be worthwhile for Board members to consider how they should respond to the ARB. The Committee felt that the protocols should be something that landowners would embrace. Member Ostrowski said the ARB would like to get the protocols in place in order to begin tracking or allowing people to report that their carbon sequestrations. Forestry is the only sector that should have a net plus or minus on the carbon side. The forestry sector overall does not emit carbon; it sequesters more than it emits. Member Ostrowski said Dr. Mader's presentation was very helpful on what protocols are out there and whether or not they have some problems or issues that the Board could address before they actually become standard.

Member Nawi reported that ARB will hold a workshop on the Baseline Issue on August 13. It was Member Nawi's understanding that the forest protocols were adopted by the Registry, probably by public process.

Nick Martin and Sandra Brown, Winrock International. Analysis and Comparison Of Protocols

This agenda item was deferred to the September Board meeting.

13. REPORT OF THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES

Forest Practice Committee

Discussion and Update of the Threatened or Impaired Watershed Literature Review.

Member Nawi reported that the Forest Practice Committee met yesterday morning. Member Nawi said the Committee was informed that the Request for Proposal had been issued on July 9 with a date of August 13 for response. Member Nawi said the Committee was concerned about the lack of adequate funding for the tasks involved with the RFP, and they were uncertain that the winning bidders could provide all tasks. The Committee took no action; they agreed to wait to see what happens, how many bids were submitted, and the nature of bids.

The TAC will be involved in process. Member Nawi reported that they were right track with the timelines.

Road Rules Committee Update

Mr. Chris Browder presented a lengthy package, to the Committee, containing the road rule changes and a package explaining what those changes were; however, the Committee did not have a chance for a substantive review. The Committee asked that members of Task Force be informed that Board and Committee will consider this and ask for substantive changes and comments at next month's meeting. The package the Committee received was a substance and consensus package of the members who participated in the Task Force but those members did not have the buy-in of agencies. Member Nawi said the FPC asked that next month attendees come back that suggestions that look like agency buy in. Member Nawi said a basic issue going back to the beginning of time was the utility of proceeding with this direction, the intent was to keep all road rules in one section of the Forest Practice Rules. Member Nawi asked if the how the Board want to proceed with this. Another issue identified was whether the Committee should ask the Task Force to go back and incorporate the 2112 regulations in the road rules. Member Nawi said the Forest Practice Committee would have a substantive discussion on this topic next month.

Discussion and review of 14 CCR 1038(i) Forest Fire Prevention Exemption, 14 CCR 1052.4 Fuel Hazard Reduction Emergency Notice

Member Nawi said the FPC was informed by Regulations Coordinator Chris Zimny that two notices of fire prevention and emergency were ready to go out. The comment period will close in time for board to consider them in October. Member Nawi suggested the Board continue the two rule packages for comment and consideration in front of the FPC. Member Nawi said Executive Officer Gentry and Mr. Dennis Hall said that once a notice has been issues and the rules are out for comment, they should not keep it on agenda because it had been noticed.

Discussion and review of Potential Emergency Regulations for the Tahoe Basin

The Forest Practice Committee did not discuss the Lake Tahoe Basin.

New and Unfinished Business

No new or unfinished business.

Policy Committee

Discussion of the Joint Policy for Anadromous Salmonids

Member Ostrowski, Chair of the Policy Committee, reported that Executive Officer Gentry had a meeting with Mr. John Carlson of the Fish and Game Commission on the Joint Salmonids Policy. They agreed that it was desirable to work on, and the timeline to develop that policy was by the Board's September meeting, at which time there would be a rough draft for the Board to review. If the draft were acceptable the Board would transmit it to the Fish and Game Commission for their review, comments, and additions. In December, the Fish and Game Commission will meet in Sacramento, and there would be overlapping day where the Board

could have a joint meeting with the Fish and Game Commission, to discuss the joint policy for possible adoption in December.

Update on the Research Committee

Member Piirto and Executive Officer Gentry worked on an outline of the Report to Legislature. The Committee decided to cut the report down and focus on the research needs of the Board, state forests, and regulatory agencies that deal with the Board's regulations and policy issues. There was discussion of creating an input form that would be sent out to members of the Board, State Forest Managers, and members of the public would be invited to participate.

Update on the Board and Department's Climate Change and Biomass Activities

Member Ostrowski said the Committee had an extensive discussion on climate change and biomass activities. Member Ostrowski covered the Committee's update of Climate Change during agenda item #12 "Presentations on Carbon Accounting Forestry Protocols".

The Committee discussed a workshop being prepared to bring together the Air Resources Board, Resources Agency, CAL FIRE, and Board of Forestry. Member Ostrowski said the focus had changed to look at economics and carbon accounting and adaptation of climate change. Mr. Dale Shimp is the new contact for forestry sector for ARB. Executive Officer Gentry and Member Nawi will contact Mr. Shimp. Member Ostrowski said the Committee did not come up with recommendations for action by the Board. Member Ostrowski said it was mentioned yesterday at Committee that the ARB would like to get the forestry protocols in place so people could report on forestry sequestration.

The Committee received a copy of a report from Mr. Wickizer, entitled, "Bioenergy Action Plan for California", dated July 2006, prepared by the Bioenergy Interagency Working Group. The Bioenergy Action Plan was designed to achieve the following five broad policy objectives:

1. Maximize the contributions of bioenergy toward achieving the state's petroleum reduction, climate change, renewable energy, and environmental goals.
2. Establish California as a market leader in technology innovation, sustainable biomass development, and market development for bio-based products.
3. Coordinate research, development, demonstration, and commercialization efforts across federal and state agencies.
4. Align existing regulatory requirements to encourage production and use of California's biomass resources.
5. Facilitate market entry for new applications of bioenergy including electricity, biogas, and biofuels.

Executive Officer Gentry will have the Bioenergy Action Plan placed on the Board's website.

New and Unfinished Business, Water Quality Joint Policy.

Member Ostrowski reported that Executive Officer Gentry had met with Mr. Gary Wolff, Vice Chair, and they are working on developing a Water Quality Joint Policy.

The last item under Old Business was Performance Based Regulation; it had been looked at by CAL FIRE and the Board in the past. CAL FIRE and CLFA are working together to prepare

a report and send out questionnaires to landowners to see about the interest in that possible regulatory system.

Management

The Management Committee met yesterday. In attendance were: Chairman Piirto, Member Walz and Asst. Executive Officer Eric Huff, Richard Gienger, Arne Hultgren, Pete Ribar, and Kevin O'Meara.

Presentation by the Department on Demonstration State Forest Staffing Level Projections

Dr. Russ Henly presented a table detailing projections for desirable staffing levels at all demonstration forests and discussed the rationale for additional PY on each State Forest. Total additional PY desired for the State Forests is estimated at 24.6 PY.

- Provided this proposed action has the review of Dave Titus, Deputy Director for Legislation, Board staff will draft a letter endorsing the Department's legislative proposal to allow FRIF Fund accumulation for the benefit of the State Forest Program. This draft letter would be reviewed for Committee concurrence prior to full Board review and possible concurrence.

ACTION ITEM:

This action item was a byproduct of Dr. Henly's identification of a projected staffing need for specific tasking with state forest certification and monitoring.

The Committee recommended that the Department's proposal to seek third-party certification for all state forests be presented to the Board for review and direction. The Committee asks that this proposal be placed on the full Board's agenda for a future meeting.

Review of Governance Work Plan Revisions and Staff Draft Goals, Objectives, Actions Checklist/Flowchart

Staff presented the Committee's proposed revisions to the Governance Work Plan, as well as a table detailing the Committee's work in progress to date.

- The Committee as well as public attendees proposed additions and revisions to the Management Committee's *Strategies* and *Actions* in the draft Governance Work Plan as well as the "Work in Progress" Table.
- Staff directed to incorporate proposed additions/revisions for presentation to the Committee in September.

Review of Draft Matrix/Table Indicating the Similarities and Differences between the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption ("La Malfa") and the Board's Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction

Staff presented a draft table detailing the features of the 150' Fire Clearance Exemption, the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption ("La Malfa"), and the Board's Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction. The objective of the table is to provide the regulated public with a clear understanding of the permitting options currently available for fuel hazard reduction.

- Staff directed to amend the table to include other types of exemptions that would likewise result in fuel reduction (10% Dead, Dying and Diseased, Tahoe-specific, etc.) as well as the option of voluntary hazard clearance without permit for commercialization.
- Staff directed to incorporate proposed additions/revisions for presentation to the Committee in September.

New and Unfinished Business

- Board staff recommended that PTEIR Guidance Document be agendized for September Meeting.
- Board staff presented an update on participation in FRAP's Geographic Information Systems Feasibility Study Report (FRAP GIS-FSR).

The following agenda items for September will be agendized (others may be included at the Committee's discretion):

1. Review of Draft PTEIR Guidance Document.
2. Review of Committee's Governance Work Plan Revisions.
3. Review of Revised Tracking Table for Committee Work in Progress.
4. Review of Revised Draft Table of Fuel Hazard Reduction Permitting Alternatives.
5. Review of Draft Letter Regarding the Department's Legislative Proposal for FRIF Fund Accumulation.
6. New and Unfinished.

Resource Protection Committee

The Resource Protection Committee met yesterday. Member Nakamura chaired the Resource Protection Committee in the absence of Chairman Giacomini. Also in attendance were Member Walz, Regulations Coordinator Zimny, and staff from the Amador/El Dorado Unit.

Update on California Fire Plan, including Review of Findings and Recommendations on the 1996 Plan, and Discussion of Staffing Levels and Wildland Fire Protection Fiscal Goals.

The Committee continued to review the 1996 Fire Plan in preparation for the 2008 Fire Plan. The Committee invited the Amador- El Dorado Unit to explain how they developed their Fire Management Plan, which was much more complicated than the State Fire Plan Mr. Zimny explained how the level-of-service translates from the State Plan to the Unit. Amador/El Dorado Unit and Chief Wayne Mitchell discussed CAL FIRE protecting wildland fire suppression and structures.

Discussion of Recommendations Checklist for Reviewing General Plans.

The Board is required to look at the safety element of General Plans. Because the General Plans are coming in at a fast rate, Mr. Zimny put together a checklist of items that need to be included in the safety element of General Plans. Member Nakamura commented that the Board should send a CD with the recommendations. Mr. Zimny would like the Board's input on how to improve the recommendations. Six General Plans have been completed, but the Board is backlogged.

The Committee would review the General Plans and submit Nevada City's General Plan with Board recommendations. Member Nakamura recommended the Board review the template to see if there were any additions or changes, and also authorize that it be sent with the provisions that comments are made and changes can be made. Member Piirto felt it was appropriate to send.

08-08-13: Member Nawi moved to authorize Regulations Coordinator Zimny to send the checklist to those counties which are pending. Member Piirto seconded the motion with the understanding that the checklist for General Plans be discussed at next months meeting. All were in favor.

Update on General Plan Safety Element Reviews Pursuant to GC 65302.5

Regulations Coordinator Zimny will continue his work on this agenda item.

Discussion of the VTP Process/Framework for Policy Review. Update on VTP EIR.

Mr. Jeff Stephens gave a brief summary of the VTP/EIR. Mr. Stephens said the first order of business was to craft an amendment response to public comment and circulation of EIR. Mr. Walz said any environmental issues having to do with greenhouse gas would have to be addressed. Mr. Stephens indicated that the internal document would be ready for review soon and several staff members had been working on it. The amendment should be in place by the end of August, and he hoped to have it ready for internal review within a few months. Mr. Stephens said that funding was from Proposition 40, which was a five year program, and they are into year three.

Review and discussion of the Forest Health Work Plan (Fire Emphasis)

No progress had been made on this agenda item; it will be on the Board's September agenda.

New and Unfinished Business. Issues relating to the Tahoe Basin

Member Nakamura said the Executive Officer would address his involvement on the Tahoe Basin under Report of the Executive Officer.

Mr. Duane Shintaku informed the Committee that Regional Chiefs were having discussions with TRPA on conflicts regarding 4291.

14. REPORT OF THE REGULATIONS COORDINATOR

Mr. Chris Zimny, Regulations Coordinator, gave a status report of the Board's regulatory packages. The Forest Fire Exemption and Emergency Notice with amendments, discussed in

Committee yesterday, will be filed for notice August 17, 2007 with a hearing date of October 10, 2007.

The Coho ITP Assistance, 2007 that was adopted in July is currently being worked on. The responses to comments are being assembled, and staff will meet with Fish and Game and Staff Counsels on August 9 and August 15 to prepare responses. The target date for both of those rule packages are to be filed with OAL in the beginning of September.

The Road Management Plan and T/I Extension, which were both adopted in July, have not had attention to them, and are likely to be filed with OAL on October 1.

15. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Executive Officer Gentry said on July 23, at the request of Senator Gaines, he participated in a forum in South Lake Tahoe. Also present were representative from TRPA, Lahontan, Lake Tahoe, Lake Tahoe Conservancy, the Forest Service, the Mayor of South Lake Tahoe, and others. The points the Executive Officer made were: the need for review processes that were efficient and orderly, the need for manpower to help with fuel reduction, the need for biomass facilities in the Tahoe Basin to dispose of that material, and the serious need for ongoing treatments to continually manage the threat in those areas. Other comments that were made focused on various efforts that had been made in the Tahoe Basin. The Tahoe Conservancy had treated almost all of their lots for fuel reduction. The main reason for the forum was to hear public comment, and Executive Officer Gentry said the public comment was very passionate. Most of the people had lost their homes, and they were extremely frustrated at the bureaucracy.

Executive Officer Gentry said he had set the schedule of dates for next year's Board Meetings, along with suggested places to visit, and would be sending them out electronically to the Board Members in the next few days.

Member Nawi asked the Executive Officer to bring a work plan for salmonids to the Policy or Forest Practice Committee stating what the follow-up actions would be.

Executive Officer Gentry said what he handed out in Policy Committee yesterday, which talked about the history, the adoption of the 2112 regulations, addressed the next steps to take.

Member Nawi made a list of requests for the Executive Officer:

1. Joint Policy on Anadromous Salmonids,
2. Following up with the ARB on forest protocols,
3. Attend workshops on the September 6 and 13,
4. Meet with State Water Resources Control Board on the interim policy,
5. Work with CAL FIRE staff on Jackson.

Member Nawi said the Board was drastically understaffed, and if the Executive Officer could accomplish half the tasks it would be a miracle.

16. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF BOARD'S VICE CHAIR, PURSUANT TO BOARD POLICY 0322.2

This agenda item was deferred to next month's meeting, so all Board members could be present for the nomination and election of the Vice Chair.

17. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Paul Mason, representing Sierra Club, said the Board needs to get out their feedback on General Plans in a timely manner. Mr. Mason said Board staff needed to get all agenda items and accompanying material in the Board Binders or on website.

Mr. Richard Geinger said the Public Binder was thin this month, and if you were not at committee yesterday, you did not see some documents because they were not in the Public Binder. Mr. Geinger said all pertinent documents should be in the Public Binders. Mr. Geinger said the Mattolle PTEIR would be a good field trip for the Steering Committee. Mr. Geinger asked, regarding the Coho ITP Assistance, if the Board and DFG were going to combine the statement of reasons and comments into one document, would it be integrated or send under separate cover to OAL.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dixon adjourned the August 8, 2007 meeting of the Board of Forestry.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

George D. Gentry
Executive Officer

Stan Dixon
Chairman

Copies of the attendance sheets can be obtained from the Board Office.